

Case 3484

NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875 (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed emendation of spelling to NOMIUSIDAE to remove homonymy with NOMIINAE Robertson, 1904 (Insecta, Hymenoptera)

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Articles 29 and 55.3, is to emend the family-group name NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875 (Insecta, Coleoptera), a senior homonym of NOMIINAE Robertson, 1904 (Insecta, Hymenoptera), long-considered a synonym of PSYDRINA LeConte, 1853, thereby removing the homonymy between the two names. It is proposed that the stem of the generic name *Nomius* Laporte, 1835, on which the beetle family-group name is based, be emended to give NOMIUSIDAE, while leaving the bee family-group name (based on *Nomia* Latreille, 1804) unaltered.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Hymenoptera; Coleoptera; CARABIDAE; NOMIINAE; NOMIUSIDAE; *Nomia*; *Nomius*; *Nomia curvipes*; *Nomius graecus*; *Morio pygmaeus*; ground beetles; sweat bee; Nearctic; Palaearctic; Afrotropical; Regions; Asia; Australia.

1. Latreille (1804, p. 182) established the genus *Nomia* for a group of bees. The type species is *Andrena curvipes* Fabricius, 1781 by monotypy.

2. Laporte (1835, p. 144) established the genus *Nomius* for a group of ground beetles. The type species is *Nomius graecus* Laporte, 1835 (p. 145) (= *Morio pygmaeus* Dejean, 1831) by monotypy. The only species originally included in the genus *Nomius* by Laporte, 1835 was *Nomius graecus*; thus it is the valid type species of this genus. *Nomius graecus* Laporte, 1835 is a junior synonym of *Morio pygmaeus* Dejean, 1831 (p. 512), which is the valid name for the type species of *Nomius*.

3. Gozis (1875, p. 3) established the family NOMIIDAE for beetles of the genus *Nomius* Laporte, 1835. Although not presently in use the name is available and was used as valid in the classification of CARABIDAE Latreille, 1802 by some authors (e.g. Lindroth, 1961 as NOMIINI). The older name PSYDRINA LeConte, 1853 is the presently valid name for this taxon (Madge, 1989; Baehr, 1998; Hürka, 2003; Lorenz, 2005).

4. Robertson (1904, p. 42) established the family NOMIIDAE for bees of the genus *Nomia* Latreille, 1804 and related genera. In subsequent classifications the group has been considered a subfamily of the HALICTIDAE Thomson, 1869 (e.g. Michener, 1944; Engel, 2005).

5. The name NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875 pre-dates the junior homonym NOMIINAE Robertson, 1904 by more than a quarter century. Today the bee family-group name is widely used in the literature for a group of 532 living species (e.g. Michener, 1944, 2007; Rozen, 1986; Moure & Hurd, 1987; Pauly, 1990; Wcislo, 1993; Radchenko & Pesenko, 1994; Wcislo & Engel, 1997; Engel, 2001, 2005; Baker, 2002; Melo & Gonçalves, 2005; Astafurova, 2008), while the beetle family-group name is considered a junior synonym. No existing synonym is available to replace the bee name and it would therefore require the establishment of a new family-group name. Such a change would disrupt the extensive literature on the systematics and biology of bees and would be contrary to overall nomenclatural stability. We therefore propose to remove this homonymy by using the entire generic name *Nomius* as the stem for the formation of the unused beetle family name, leaving the bee name unaltered. Such an emendation would not affect the availability of the beetle family-group name should it someday be recognised as a valid taxonomic group.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that for the purposes of Article 29 of the Code the stem of the generic name *Nomius* Laporte, 1835 is *Nomius*-;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *Nomius* Laporte, 1835 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy *Nomius graecus* Laporte, 1835;
 - (b) *Nomia* Latreille, 1804 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Andrena curvipes* Fabricius, 1781;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *pygmaeus* Dejean, 1831, as published in the binomen *Morio pygmaeus* (valid name of the type species of *Nomius* Laporte, 1835);
 - (b) *curvipes* Fabricius, 1781, as published in the binomen *Andrena curvipes* (specific name of the type species of *Nomia* Latreille, 1804);
- (4) to place on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) NOMIUSIDAE Gozis, 1875, type genus *Nomius* Laporte, 1835 (spelling emended by the ruling in (1) above);
 - (b) NOMIINAE Robertson, 1904, type genus *Nomia* Latreille, 1804 (Insecta, Hymenoptera);
- (5) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology the name NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875 (spelling emended to NOMIUSIDAE, as ruled in (1) above) (Insecta, Coleoptera).

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